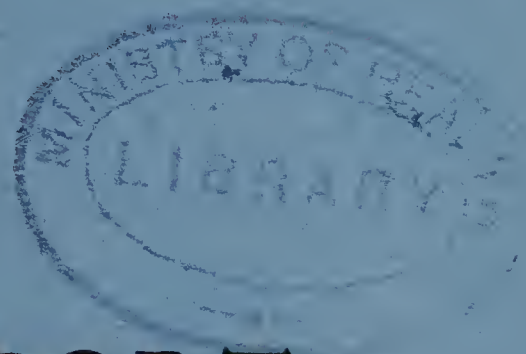


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BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

1953

STAFFORD:

CHRONICLE PRESS, GREENGATE STREET

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



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Chief Sanitary Inspector

1953

H. B. BINKS

Medical Officer of Health

IVOR O. WILLIAMS

Chief Sanitary Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN C. H. MERREY, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR A. E. COLLINS

THE MAYOR : COUNCILLOR C. JONES

Ald.	Fowke	Coun.	Turney (Mrs.), c.c.
,,	Owen, O.B.E., J.P.	,,	Tyler
,,	Storer, M.B.E.	,,	Weaver
Coun.	Hillsdon (Miss)	,,	Wilford (Mrs.)
,,	Hodgens	,,	Williams (Mrs.)
,,	Robinson		

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

***H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), D.P.H. (Camb.)**

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part-time) :

A. V. CAMPBELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

***I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert.R.San.Inst., and Certificated Meat Inspector.**

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

***K. A. SIMS, Cert., S.I.B.**

***W. A. STOCKER, Cert.S.I.B. and Certificated Meat Inspector.**

***G. ATHERTON, Cert.S.I.B. and Certificated Meat Inspector, from
2nd March, 1953.**

SENIOR CLERK : Mrs. H. N. JACKSON

Clerks : K. H. J. GREEN, resigned 10th January, 1953.

T. T. WILLIAMS, appointed 5th January, 1953.

MISS M. E. ARKINSTALL

***Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.**

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,
5 MARTIN STREET,
STAFFORD

May, 1954.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Seventy-ninth Annual Report on the health of Stafford.

The Report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular 1/54, dated 12th January, 1954.

Following upon the upheaval of recent years, and the ensuing period of flux, there is emerging a definite pattern of orderly action in grappling with the many affairs of the Borough.

HOUSING.—In housing, not only has progress been made in the building of new houses, but action as to the unfitness of many of the older houses is taking place, and an inclination to meet the problems arising therefrom is coming under consideration. Some positive results have been achieved as to the elderly, but greater provision is required. Thoughts too have been directed to meeting the problems of the non-thrifty and the non-social groups. These present a problem which is baffling, but a plea is put forward for an attempt at their supervision and guidance. To commence with, it can be anticipated that the property would be better protected and eventually a beneficial effect on the anti-social habits of some of the members might be expected.

WATER.—Progress is also reported as to the Water Supply both as regards work at the Milford Pumping Station and as to the additional supplies from Gnosall. In this respect a definite link-up is to be completed in the Eccleshall Area, and negotiations are proceeding as to the Newport Road approach.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—Work has commenced on this project and should go forward without further delay. It is a big undertaking—very necessary—and, when completed, and in conjunction with the replacement of the older sewers, will remove a potential source of danger to the

health of the community and an annoyance to those living in the vicinity of the present works. A lesser matter, but one which has been frequently before the Health Committee—Public Conveniences—is now making progress. A commencement is being made by the construction of one at the approach to the Car Park. This may initiate a long overdue modernisation or replacement of such places throughout the town.

AIR POLLUTION.—From the account on page 18 it can be inferred that an important factor retarding the more rapid progress in the abolition of smoke pollution is an apparent lack of co-ordination as between the Coal Board, who supply the fuel, and the managements of industry, who use it. The latter, in many instances, endeavour to lessen their potentiality to create a nuisance by installing modern appliances, only to find that there is a shortage of that particular grade of fuel. These shortages affect progress both industrially and domestically. The Public are now very smoke conscious and do not hesitate to bring any short-comings of Industry to the notice of the Local Authority.

VITAL STATISTICS.—Stafford and other districts similarly placed will have a death rate much in excess of former years. This may well adversely affect the towns concerned unless the facts are fully understood—see page 9. None the less, it is hoped that an early return can be made to former practices.

The death rate for Stafford is 13 per 1,000 population. Last year it was 9.4—a very stiff rise, fortunately on paper only.

The birth rate is higher than that for England and Wales and the Infant Mortality rate is also a little higher than was recorded last year.

Stafford, like the rest of the country, experienced a heavy Measles visitation. Whooping Cough accounted for a fairly substantial number of cases. Tuberculosis cases were more numerous than for many years and this point is dealt with below and on page 34. Having recounted the adverse factors it may be said that the other figures are favourable, see page 38.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Three years ago, the Regional Hospital Board carried out a one team Radiological Survey of the Town. This year the method was by a rapid and intensive

survey by a combination of teams. It is regretted that a report on this survey, which is being compiled by the Regional Hospital Board, is not yet available for publication.

I am of the opinion that these surveys do do a certain amount of uncovering of unknown cases, but I have much more confidence in the method, although taking longer, whereby, with the assistance of the local T.B. Service it will be possible, by tracing back more vigorously from the known to the unknown infective case. It is to be expected that success in this direction will be slow and to be attained only when the public fully co-operate through really appreciating the position, first as individuals (early diagnosis and care) and to the population as a whole (removal of previously unknown cases infecting their friends and workmates).

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—There are records of some 462 children, under 15 years of age, receiving their primary injections to protect them from Diphtheria and this may be an understatement for the year under review—as those receiving the combined immunisation, i.e., Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, are not included. It is not a reassuring figure. There have been reported, several localised outbreaks of the disease in the country and in the county itself. The number of children immunised is not large enough to inhibit a similar outbreak taking place locally. The target at the moment is the protection of 75% of all children in their first year. This would mean in numbers approximately 500 of this age group whereas the number of this age for the year was only 155. Emphasis must be placed on the fact that Immunisation against Diphtheria, to be of its greatest blessing to the individual, must be in the first year of life. It should be stated that in later years the figures are much better, for instance, those coming forward for immunisation increase with increasing age so that by the 15th year of life some 65% have been protected, but, as stated above, the risk is greatest in the early years.

I have to thank the members of the Committee for their consideration and support in my work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. BINKS.

REPORT

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics.

Area of Borough	5,089 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1953	40,820
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to Rate Books	11,289
Rateable Value (31st March, 1953)	£260,052
Sum represented by a penny rate (1952-53)	£1,042·279
The total of 11,289 inhabited houses is made up as follows :—	

Houses	10,871
Licensed Houses	88
Farm Houses	16
Shops with living accommodation ..	314

Social Conditions.

The following survey of the Social Conditions existing in Stafford, has kindly been supplied by Mr. E. Arnold, the Manager of the Employment Exchange.

“Approximate numbers employed in the principal industries and services in Stafford are as follows :—

Industry	Males	Females	Total
Engineering (all types)	6,700	1,800	8,500
Shoe Manufacture	890	1,280	2,170
Local Government Service (including Education)	1,300	850	2,150*
Distributive Trades	1,060	1,000	2,060
Abrasives and Cast Concrete Products	1,200	390	1,590
Transport and Communications ..	1,300	180	1,480

Building and Civil Engineering ..	1,300	20	1,320
Agriculture and Forestry ..	1,080	160	1,240*
Salt Production	350	60	410
Gas and Electricity Supply ..	320	30	350
Sawmilling and Machine Wood- working	220	40	260
Printing	130	80	210
Chemical and Oil Products ..	160	30	190
Wood Heel and Last Manufacture	100	60	160

*Estimated total for Stafford district.
Borough figures not available.

“For a town of its size Stafford is rich in industry, and employment during 1953 has been maintained at a very high level. Out of an (estimated) working population of about 28,350 (8,650 women), less than 28 persons are at present claiming unemployment benefit, while some 470 vacancies (mainly for skilled workers) remain to be filled. Unemployment, therefore, remains very low at 1 in 1,000, against the national figure of 15 in 1,000. Indeed, Stafford industries attract, and are vitally dependent upon, workpeople from other districts. At present, men, mostly within daily travelling distance, are being recruited at the rate of 250 every quarter. A recent survey indicates that some 2,800 workpeople—1 in every 10 of the working population—travel daily to Stafford. Accommodation and housing, therefore, remain of paramount importance to the convenience and welfare of the individual as well as to industry.

“Stafford’s (and Britain’s) population is ageing, however, and this will be an increasingly important factor, with certain economic consequences, as time goes on. It is estimated that in 1911 about 1 in 15 of the national population were of pensionable age. This has risen to 2 in 15 in 1951, while in 1977 nearly three in 15 of the population will be pensionable—a heavy burden for those left in industry, if the older worker is not given the opportunity of continuing in work if he is able and willing to do so.

“Subject to successful tendering, in increasingly competitive world markets, together with essential supplies of materials and power, the prospects for Stafford industries for 1954 look bright, but the economic battle to hold our own will be challenging and stern.”

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1953
Live Births (See Table 1, Page 37).

Registered live births :—

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	648	344	304
Illegitimate	24	13	11
	<hr/> 672	<hr/> 357	<hr/> 315

Birth Rate .. 16.5.

Still Births.

Legitimate	17	9	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 8

Still Birth Rate .. 0.42

Deaths.

From all causes ..	531	259	272
--------------------	-----	-----	-----

Death Rate .. 13.0

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths 1952	Deaths 1953	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal and post- abortive sepsis ..	0	0	—
Other maternal causes	0	1	1.5
Total	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1.5

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	25.30
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	85
„ „ Measles (all ages)	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..	—

* The Registrar-General supplies "Comparability Factors" to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is truly comparable with the death rate of any town similarly treated. The factor for Stafford is 1.06. The corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is therefore 13.7. Similarly for the Birth Rate—the factor is 1.01 and the corrected Birth Rate is 16.6.

Notes on Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births for the year was . . . 672

There were 357 males and 315 females.

The birth rate at 16.5 per 1,000 compares with 15.5 for England and Wales (see table page 38).

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered in 1953 was . . . 531 of these 259 were males and 272 were females. For the year 1953, the number of deaths has increased. This is due to the decision of the Registrar General that all deaths occurring in the Chronic Sick Hospitals including Mental Hospitals and Homes for the elderly, should be assigned to the place in which these hospitals are situate. Representation was made, but for the year under review, no alteration in the procedure was allowed. For 1954, however, modifications have been agreed which although still penalising the district with these Hospitals in their midst, should go part of the way in meeting the objections made. Table A has been compiled which compares the year under review with that of other selected years and the effect of the decision referred to above can best be seen by noting the number of deaths and mortality rates in the second and third column of the last two lines. These record that for practically the same size of population there were approximately 150 more deaths in 1953 and the mortality rate has risen from 8.4 to 13 per 1,000. Other years have been included to show the general pattern of Mortality. There has been no epidemic to account for this. The increase in the Death Rate, therefore, is not real, but due to the inclusion of deaths occurring in certain Institutions which formerly were transferred to their usual place of residence have been loaded on to Stafford. The Mortality Rates of Stafford for the year 1953 cannot be used for comparison with former years or for those years to come.

The table by the tabulation of age groups and by including both numbers and percentages, also illustrates the ageing of the population. Comparing the three sets of figures, i.e., 1933, 1943 and 1952, it can be noted the diminishing number of deaths in all groups up to and including the 45—65 year group, and on the other hand the increasing number recorded in the 65 and over age group.

For the year under review 291 persons died after attaining 70 years of age. Many of these, however, came into Stafford for care and attention in their declining years.

Table A. Showing population, deaths and mortality rates for selected years, also deaths in number and percentage in age groups.

Population	No. of Deaths	Mortality Rate	Age Groups in Years													
			1 year		1—5		5—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 and over	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1933 29,400	342	11.5	23		10		9		13		39		85		163	
				6.7		3.0		2.6		3.8		10.4		25.0		48.0
1943 36,090	379	10.5	30		7		3		5		21		99		214	
				7.9		1.8		.8		1.3		5.5		26.1		56.5
1952 40,750	382	9.4	17		1		3		3		9		90		259	
				4.4		.3		.8		.8		2.3		23.5		67.8
1953 40,820	531	13.0	17		3		1		1		32		119		359	
				3.2		.5		.2		.2		6.0		22.3		67.5

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

The principal causes of death, their number and their percentage are given below :—

	Rates per 1,000 of the population		Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of total deaths
	1952	1953	1952	1953
Heart Disease ..	3.4	5.02	36.2	38.5
Cancer	1.10	2.08	11.7	16.2
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc. ..	0.81	1.32	8.6	10.2
Tuberculosis ..	0.12	0.17	1.28	1.31
Prematurity ..	0.15	0.09	1.6	0.69
Road deaths ..	0.25	0.12	2.7	0.92

On page 39 is a Short List of Causes of Death as supplied by the Registrar-General.

Infantile Mortality.

The rate of 25.30 compares favourably with the rate of 26.8 for the Country as a whole, but is slightly above the rate obtaining in the 160 smaller towns which is 24.3

The following table shows the cause of death of babies under 1 year of age. Nine of the deaths occurred within the first two weeks of life. It is to be noted that seven of the deaths were due to infective or accidental causes.

Causes of Death of Babies under 1 year	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	5
Congenital Deformity	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Accidental asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intercranial haemorrhage ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Haemorrhagic disease	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ..	7	2	—	—	9	1	4	2	1	17

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The County Council as the Local Health Authority and the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board as the Hospital and Specialised Services Authority, carry out in this area the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

An Executive Council, constituted for the area of the Local Health Authority, administer the General Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical and supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

The Local Health Authority is responsible, under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, for :—

- (21) The provision, equipping and maintenance of Health Centres.
- (22) The making of arrangements for the care of mothers and young children.
- (23) Midwifery.
- (24) Health Visiting.
- (25) Home Nursing.
- (26) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (27) Ambulance Services.
- (28) Prevention of illness—care and after care.
- (29) Domestic Help.

The Local Health Authority has delegated day to day duties to Area Committees under Part III of the National Health Service Act. There are nine such, and Stafford Borough is included in No. 3. Representatives to serve on the Committee are as follows :—

Representatives appointed by County Health Committee
—4. Representatives appointed by Councils of County Districts.—Stafford Borough 4, Stafford R.D. 2, Stone U.D. 1, Stone R.D. 2, Executive Council Representative 1, Regional Hospital Board Representative 1.

Ambulances.

The Ambulance Service, under the control of the County Council, has met the needs of the Borough throughout the year.

Mortuary.

Bodies admitted to the Public Mortuary were as under :—

Borough residents	..	..	..	..	22
Non-residents who died in the Borough	..				1
Brought in from outside the Borough	..				12
Non-civilians	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					36
					—
Post-mortem examinations	..	..	..		26

Social Services.

Three voluntary associations actively concern themselves with the aged. They are the Stafford Old People's Welfare, the Darby and Joan Club, and the Red Cross Society. There are, in addition, the Pennycrofts Resident Association and the Littleworth Old Pensioners' Club. These latter are local to their districts, are self-governed, and are to be congratulated on that account.

The older Associations are doing good work and their membership increases. Activities vary, i.e., social afternoons and teas, annual holidays, coach trips, and in one association the services of a chiropodist are provided.

The accommodation available for one of these voluntary bodies is not of the brightest, but, in spite of this handicap, the attendance is good. Thanks of the community are due to all these ladies for the kindly work they are so unobtrusively doing.

Residential Homes.

"Fernleigh Hostel," Marston Road. Those who need care and attention can be accommodated at this Hostel.

"Wilford House," voluntary, receives members of both sexes—there are 14 beds, and the service is provided for by the Eventide Homes Committee.

"Westhorpe Hostel" also provides 14 beds, and is available for ladies only.

Children's Homes.

Rotherwood. There is accommodation for 34 children. An addition has been made to the Home by the provision of a Nursery with 30 beds.

Springfield Children's Home. Children of all ages are accepted at this Home. Thirty-six children are provided for.

Infectious Disease Hospitals.

The following table gives the number of Stafford residents who were treated during the year at Kingswinford and Moxley Isolation Hospitals.

Disease	Cases admitted to Hospitals	
	Kingswinford	Moxley
Scarlet Fever	16	2
Measles	—	3
Pneumonia	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	3
Paratyphoid	—	1

Nursing and Maternity Homes.

There is one private Nursing Home with two beds.

The Hospital Board have provided twelve beds at Burton House, five beds at Fernleigh for normal maternity cases, and there are a number of beds at the General Infirmary for complicated cases.

Clinics.

Under Local Health Authority :—

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, North Walls.
School Clinic, Lammascote Road.

Under Local Hospital Authority :—

Clinic for Venereal Diseases is held at The General Infirmary.
Orthopaedic Clinic at General Infirmary.
Chest Clinic, Mill Bank.

Hospitals.

Staffordshire General Infirmary, Foregate Street. During the year a new Male Fracture Ward has been opened with 16 beds. In all, 167 beds are available for General Surgery and Medical cases.

Fernleigh Hostel, Marston Road. On the hospital side there are 132 beds for the chronic sick and 5 cots for the children.

St. George's Hospital, for the mental sick, which includes the premises formerly known as Coton Hill, provides 1,238 beds.

Patients are also referred to Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Manchester, North Staffs. and Stoke Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological Examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, and during the year 1,102 reports were received at this office.

Analysis and examination of Milk, Water and Food-stuffs is carried out at the Laboratory of the County Council and the results of these are set out later in the Report. (See pages 16, 31, 32.)

Royal Brine Baths.

From information supplied by the Baths Superintendent, the popularity of the Royal Brine Baths, whether it be for pleasure or for relief of pain and disability, shows no decline. In fact, he notes that attendances at the Fresh Water Swim have gone up by over 14,000, and the number of Hospital patients attending for Brine Treatment has also increased.

Attendances at the various sections are as follows :—

1953/54	Bathers
Private Brines	3,883
Brine Swim	3,289
Private Wash Baths	25,244
Fresh Water Swim	69,712
School Swimming	47,746

It should also be noted that changes and renovations have been carried out, which he estimates will ensure a high standard of Hygiene throughout.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The main supply from the Milford and Shugborough bore holes continues to maintain a safe standard.

Except for seven houses where the water is obtained from wells, all houses in the Borough are on the main water supply.

Samples were taken and submitted for Bacteriological investigation on 19 occasions and for Chemical Analysis on 12 occasions during the year. The respective reports for December and June are set out below. Chlorination was discontinued when samples were taken direct from the bore holes.

The County Analyst additionally reported that no solvent action on lead was detected in any of the samples submitted during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORT

December, 1953	Milford Old Well	Milford New Well	Shugboro'	Town
Probable number of Coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

	Sample from			
	Town	Milford Old Well	Shug- borough Well	Milford New Well
	December Quarter	December Quarter	December Quarter	June Quarter
		Parts per	100,000	
pH Value	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.4
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F	37.0	60.0	25.0	20.0
Free and Saline Ammonia ..	0.0012	0.0056	Nil.	0.0004
Albuminoid	0.0004	0.0024	Nil.	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen	0.25	0.25	0.2	0.20
Chlorine present as Chloride	8.1	15.3	5.2	1.70
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	0.004	0.025	0.012	Nil.
Appearance	No colour	No colour	No colour	Clear and colourless
Injurious Metallic Contami- nation	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total Hardness	14.2°	17.6°	8.90°	14.2°
Permanent Hardness	8.0°	10.0°	5.00°	8.2°
Temporary Hardness	6.2°	7.6°	3.90°	6.0°

The users of one well were warned as the water therefrom was found to be bacteriologically unsafe. The owners have been approached, and action as to the well is pending. Meanwhile, the tenants have been advised as to the necessary precautions that they must take.

Mr. Plant, the Water Engineer, has supplied the following information :—

“For the year ending 31st March, 1954, the total water consumption amounted to 854 million gallons, an increase of 42 million gallons on the previous year. This represents 21.89 and 24.92 (total 46.81) gallons per head per day for domestic and trade purposes respectively. (The population supplied remains substantially unchanged).

“In spite of the arrangements made to purchase a quantity of water from the 1st April, 1953, the supply position remains very difficult as the amount purchased is not sufficient to meet the further daily increase in consumption over the past twelve months.

“Difficulties have been further increased by the drought of 1953 when rainfall was $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the average and by the continued dry weather to date (April, 1954), the rainfall for this year already being 25% below normal.

“It is hoped that the reconstruction of Milford Pumping Station will alleviate the difficulties before the end of the present year.

“Main extensions during the year have been almost entirely confined to housing estates, the Highfields Estate will be completed within the next few weeks.”

Sewage Disposal Works.

The Borough Engineer advises me that the construction of a new Pumping Station at Lammascote Road Depot is now well advanced, and it is anticipated it will be in operation during the coming Summer.

The Council were permitted to obtain tenders for the construction of the new Sewage Disposal Works at Brancote Gorse at the end of last year, and the Ministry permitted the acceptance of a tender and the commencement of the contract in March of this year. Work is now actively proceeding on the site, and it is anticipated that the Works will be completed and in operation in approximately two-and-a-half years' time.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year, additions to surface and foul water sewers have been constructed as follows :—

SURFACE WATER SEWERS—4,990 lineal yards at Stone Road, Grey Friars and Highfields Estate.

FOUL WATER SEWERS—4,485 lineal yards at Stone Road, Pumping Station, Crab Lane, and Highfields Estate.

Smoke Abatement (Industrial Chimneys)

Industrial boiler plants are under constant supervision and the Chief Sanitary Inspector has reported on interviews with managements and with the personnel responsible for the boilers. Mechanical methods are gradually replacing the older manual methods, but better results as to the smaller installations are constantly being negated by too frequent changes in the characteristics of the fuel supplied. It is perhaps not sufficiently recognised that each industrial process and each type of furnace works most efficiently with its own particular grade of fuel. Any change in the qualities of a fuel will require

an alteration in the method of stoking whether mechanical or by hand. In the smaller concern especially the semi-skilled and usually older type of man has not had the initiative or the opportunity or probably the capacity to attend technical classes and have the difficult subject of the composition of fuels made known to him. He has not, therefore, the knowledge to vary the method of firing according to the change of fuel economically or efficiently, and complaints arise.

Mention has been made of the insufficiency of smokeless fuels for domestic use in a former report. From what has been already said, the Inspector is emphasising that the fuel supplied should meet the needs of the smaller industries so that they can work efficiently and do their part in freeing the air from unnecessary pollution. It is of little moment for the public to complain, for the Sanitary Inspector to visit, and for the Management to install mechanical stokers, if the right grade of fuel is not regularly obtainable.

The Ministry of Fuel and Power, through their advisory committee, have, it is understood, been approached on several occasions on this subject by at least one firm, but the final decision rests with the Coal Board, and so far the response to their request has not yet been forthcoming.

We have since been advised that as from the 1st May, 1954, the preliminary inspection of plant and advisory work, including instructions to firemen can be carried out, on request, by the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—A grant of 50/- is available on request for the conversion of waste water closets, and 54 were so dealt with. There remain of these, 606, and, of the pail and midden type, 32 and one respectively. The department dealt with 858 drain stoppages affecting 3,540 houses. Warning letters were sent to occupiers if the stoppages were caused by unsuitable articles.

The tabular statement below contains the number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors with the number of notices served and the result of such notices.

	No. of Inspec- tions	De- fects	No. of Notices.			
			In- formal 1	Stat- utory 2	Complied with	
					1	2
DWELLINGHOUSES :—						
Repairs to dwellinghouses	2127	106	89	17	88	16
Houses requiring cleans- ing and verminous houses	79	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences ..	204	45	43	2	33	2
House drainage defects ..	639	49	48	2	43	2
Dustbins	777	777	9	—	9	—
Accumulation of refuse ..	34	34	34	—	34	—
Overcrowding	45	—	2	—	2	—
Water supply	23	—	1	—	1	—
Factories (Mechanical) In- cluding Bakehouses. Food preparing premises, ice cream manufacturers ..	347	65	61	—	33	—
Factories (Non Mechanical)	30	3	3	—	2	—
Slaughterhouses	957	—	—	—	—	—
Shops where food is sold ..	393	12	12	—	5	—
Fried Fish Shops	32	4	2	—	2	—
Offensive Trades	3	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies	12	—	—	—	—	—
Piggeries, or animals kept, etc	161	11	11	—	11	—
Market Inspections	40	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Shops	107	—	—	—	—	—
Cafes	29	—	—	—	—	—
Public Houses	14	—	—	—	—	—
Cinemas	7	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to infectious cases ..	212	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke observations	160	—	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	60	—	—	—	—	—
Rehousing of Families	926	—	—	—	—	—
Caravans	22	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse tips	13	—	—	—	—	—
Pet shops	12	—	—	—	—	—
	7465	1106	315	21	263	20

Factory Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	30	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	158	283	48	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	6	64	13	—
Total.....	179	377	64	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases found				Prose- cutions
	Found	Remed- ied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.....	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation..	1	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	24	13	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	36	18	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	—	—	—
Total	65	34	—	3	—

Homework Section 110(1) (c) Factory Act, 1937. The number of outworkers engaged in the making, etc., of wearing apparel is 5.

Refuse Disposal

Refuse collection and disposal is under the supervision of the Borough Engineer.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is responsible for keeping the refuse tips free of infestation by rats. Treatment with Gammexane Powder proved to be most effective in preventing nuisances caused by flies, crickets, etc.

Dustbins.

Free dustbin replacement has been carried out by the Borough since July, 1950. For the year under review 754 were issued, and since the commencement of the scheme approximately 2,500 have been distributed.

Byelaws as to the Keeping of Pigs.

The enforcement of the byelaws has been carried out by advice and guidance of the Inspectors without legal action being necessary.

Verminous Houses.

Corporation and Private houses have been disinfected for Vermin, Infectious Diseases, and where tenants have moved to new houses. The number of Corporation houses sprayed was 24, and number of private houses was also 24.

Offensive Trades.

On the Register there are two offensive trades consisting of :—

- 1 Gut Scraper.
- 1 Rag and Bone Merchant.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is the Authorised Pest Officer and is assisted by a Pest Operator.

In October, 1943, Stafford became the authority for the extermination of rats in the Borough. Substantial progress was made during 1943-44, in the elimination of all major infestations of premises, and this was supported by the very few complaints received from the town centre from 1945 onwards.

It is known that major infestations recur, that they have been in the South and the East districts of the Borough and in mostly open country. It is surmised that tips, river courses and the Disposal Works are attractions, and that, when cleared of their rat inhabitants, room is made for those rats living in adjoining and probably overcrowded quarters.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector has, in previous reports, mentioned the fact that he had to deal with major infestations. These, although cleared, recur in a short period of time, and it is obvious that these rats come from agricultural land outside the Borough or where the owners of such land give little, if any, treatment to their infested premises.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

In April, 1953, the Chief Sanitary Inspector reported on the renewal of five licences to keep Pet Shops.

The Committee considered a report regarding the sale of dog meat which was obtained from a Knacker's Yard. As such meat was diseased and unfit for human consumption, the handling of such meat in Pet Shops, who sold other materials, was considered, and it was resolved that the following be added to the list of conditions attached to the issue of such licences :—

“The licensee is prohibited from selling or offering or exposing for sale animal feeding meat for consumption by dogs, cats, or other animals, unless such meat has first been sterilised.”

SECTION D.—HOUSING

Her Majesty's Government is proposing to introduce legislation intended to enable owners to maintain houses, built before the war, in good repair, i.e., on keeping the structurally sound houses in good order and on improving and modernising those which lack amenities.

There are a large number of such houses, and, with the rising costs of today, the owners are unable on the rents received to keep their properties internally and externally in structural sound repair and much less to improve and to modernise them.

The Act should be seriously considered by owners and their agents for it is anticipated that with the financial grant that will be available for the major alterations and improvement and the increases in the rents, which are allowable after full repairs have been effected, they will be enabled to modernise and extend the life of their properties for, as the Act suggests, thirty years.

The desirability of any house will, in the future, be assessed by the public on the availability of baths, hot water, food stores, etc. The demand is there, and young married people expect, and are prepared to pay for, such amenities.

Consideration has therefore been given to the number of houses in the Borough which are worth such repairs and improvements, and an approximate figure has been arrived at by excluding Corporation and privately owned houses ; built between the years 1920 and 1953 ; houses of the detached or otherwise villa type, i.e., Rowley Park, Weeping Cross, Eccleshall Road ; and houses that are unfit and should be demolished. A considered estimate of 2,283 houses in the Borough has been assessed as coming within the group under review. They may or may not require structurally major repairs but are without modern bathing facilities, etc.

These houses are saveable and can become an asset although by the process of modernisation their accommodation may be reduced to two bedrooms and one living-room. They will be suitable for those without children or the generation, whose children having grown up and left, are in a home of their own.

A further point, which should not be lost sight of, is that the economic rental of these houses, even with the increase, will be less than the houses newly erected.

During the year two Public Enquiries were held by the Minister of Housing and Local Government with regard to a Compulsory Purchase of a Clearance Area which consisted of 15 houses, numbers 8 to 22, Lammascote Road, and a Clearance Area consisting of 19 houses numbers 1 to 3, Pilgrim Place, 5—14 and 19—24, Pilgrim Street.

Both areas were confirmed without modification by the Minister.

In addition, a Clearance Area consisting of 6 houses, numbers 2 to 7, Espley's Yard, were acquired, by agreement, by the Corporation.

The following houses which were in Clearance Areas made before the war were demolished, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, North Walls, 2, 3, 4, Union Street and 169, 170, Rising Brook, a total of 28 houses.

The Housing Committee re-inspected two Clearance Areas declared as such in 1938. A special report was submitted giving an estimate of the number of houses in the Borough of a very low standard and which will require to be dealt with.

Moveable Dwellings.

During the year ten licences were granted for the purpose of "siting", for a limited period, trailer caravans.

Housing.

The following information has been supplied by Mr. Higson, the Borough Surveyor.

HOUSES ERECTED FROM 1945 TO THE END OF 1953

Corporation houses					
Permanent	..	..	..	..	1,713
Temporary	..	..	..	..	225
Other houses	..	..	..	..	486
					<hr/> 2,424 <hr/>

HOUSES ERECTED IN 1953

Corporation	..	..	..	..	241
Others including Air Ministry			..	..	242
					<hr/> 483 <hr/>

HOUSES IN COURSE OF ERECTION IN DECEMBER, 1953

Corporation	..	..	..	..	123
Other houses	..	..	..	..	77
					<hr/> 200 <hr/>

The Housing Manager has supplied the following table of applicants for houses—included in the table are many applicants who reside outside the Borough.

Analysis of Housing Applications :

HOUSEHOLDERS

Date	Man and wife	Man, wife and one child	Man, wife and two children	Man, wife and three children	Man, wife and four children	Man, wife and five children	Man, wife and six children	Spinsters, etc.	TOTAL
Mar. 1953	134	280	222	70	24	13	1	58	802
Mar. 1954 (In Borough)	120	241	182	74	27	9	4	82	739
(Outside Borough)	89)	161)	122)	40)	18)	4)	1)	80)	515)
	31)	80)	60)	34)	9)	5)	3)	2)	224)
Increase	—	—	—	4	3	—	3	14	—
Decrease	14	39	40	—	—	4	—	—	63

LODGERS

Date	Man and wife	Man, wife and one child	Man, wife and two children	Man, wife and three children	Man, wife and four children	Man, wife and five children	Man, wife and six children	Spinsters, etc.	TOTAL
Mar. 1953	366	376	112	15	6	2	—	78	955
Mar. 1954 (In Borough)	367	302	66	14	7	—	—	60	816
(Outside Borough)	324)	255)	51)	10)	7)	—)	—)	53)	700)
	43)	47)	15)	4)	—)	—)	—)	7)	116)
Increase	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Decrease	—	74	46	1	—	2	—	18	139

Decrease
202

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The table on page 20 enumerates the visits and illustrates the protean nature of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. It also exemplifies the many duties placed on Local Authorities by legislation.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following premises are registered :—

Preparation of sausages, etc. 21

Manufacture and sale of ice cream 7

Sale of ice cream in pre-packed containers 87

Fish frying 23

Shops which are visited to which Section 13 applies :—

General, 79 ; Grocers, 53 ; Greengrocers, 12 ; Butchers, 37 ; Fishmongers, 10 ; Confectioners, 13 ; Sweet Shops, 20 ; Cafes, 16, Off Licences, 24.

Ice Cream.

Samples of Ice Cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for Bacteriological examination. Grades 3 and 4 indicate an unsatisfactory product, but, as shown by the table following, the results for the year may be considered as very satisfactory.

LABORATORY REPORTS ON ICE CREAM (1953)					
	Ice Cream made within the Borough		Ice Cream made outside the Borough		Total
	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	
Grade 1	6	9	5	—	20
Grade 2	1	1	1	1	4
Grade 3	—	—	—	—	—
Grade 4	—	—	—	—	—

Meat and Other Foods.

At Stafford there is one Government controlled slaughterhouse which supplies Stafford Borough, Stafford Rural, Rugeley, and parts of Cannock Rural District.

In addition the Stafford and Stone Co-operative Society slaughter bacon pigs for their own use, at their slaughterhouse in Lammascote Road.

Both slaughterhouses were constructed between the 1914 and 1939 Wars, and are of reasonably modern construction.

Private slaughterhouses were dealt with under the Food and Drugs Act of 1938. Unless new premises are built, slaughtering will continue at the two premises already mentioned.

All rejected meat is removed by Messrs. Boon's Animal Products, Ltd., Slaughterers and Hide Merchants, Derrington, whose premises are in the Stafford Rural District.

The analysis of the post-mortem examinations carried out is set out below. The Inspector paid 957 visits to the Abattoir for this purpose.

CARCASES RECEIVED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3,038	1,340	796	13,157	10,532
Number inspected	3,038	1,340	796	13,157	10,532
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	11	27	39	75
Portions of carcasses with organs	12	13	2	6	23
Organs only	805	520	3	430	589
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	18.9	27.1	4.0	3.6	6.5
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	11	31	—	—	7
Portions of carcasses with organs	18	26	—	—	—
Organs only	296	721	—	—	495
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.2	34.7	—	—	4.8
Casualty animals received	54	54	92	101	748

Total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption : 41 tons 16 cwts. 28 lbs.

Certificates were issued confirming the unfitness of foods reported to the Department by provision merchants in the town. The principal items were :—138 tins of milk, 233 tins meat, 343 tins vegetables, 57 tins fish, 457 tins and jars of fruit and preserves, 76 packets pudding mixture, 65 lbs. cheese, 29 cwts. 12 lbs. rolled oats, 2 cwt. rice, 62 lbs. sago, 36 lbs. macaroni, 315 ices, 190 table jellies, 85 lbs. cooking fat, 148 lbs. margarine, 48 lbs. 6 ozs. butter, 32 lbs. bacon, 218 lbs. sugar. Sundry items, 93.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Reports were received from the County Medical Officer of Health that samples of milk taken from two retailers in the Borough were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to contain *Brucella Abortus* and a sample submitted from one Producer of Milk showed that Tuberculosis was present. The District Medical Officer of Health and the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were notified in each instance, and appropriate action was taken.

There are 35 retailers of milk licensed to sell milk in the Borough. From seven of these is the milk not delivered to the customer in bottles. It is to be hoped that the declaration of Stafford as being in a designated area is not far away. The bulk of the milk sold is heat-treated.

Since the Milk and Dairies Regulations of 1949 came into operation, the former duties of inspection of cow-sheds, dairies, etc., were transferred over to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the supervision of heat treatment plants to the County Council. There remain, however, to the Local Authority, the licensing of retailers and the responsibility of protecting the public from unsafe milk. Fortunately, there is general co-operation so that the task of protecting the public can be carried out, although this entails many contacts, e.g., information from the County Medical Officer of Health that his sampling officer has received a report that a milk obtained from a retailer selling milk in the Borough contains harmful organisms and whose premises are in a neighbouring district, necessitates :—

1. Contact with the retailer (prohibiting the sale of milk).
2. Contact with the Milk Marketing Board's representative to arrange for the heat treatment of the milk or alternative supply.

3. Contact with the Producer if his farm is within the District, or the Medical Officer if the residence is situated outside the area.
4. Contact with the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon of the Ministry of Agriculture.
5. Continual contact with the Ministry of Agriculture's Divisional Veterinary Surgeon or Medical Officer of Health of the District where the milk is produced, until information is received that the milk is safe and that the offending animal has been traced and removed from the herd.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, which became operative as from October, 1949, six licences are issued for premises registered as dairies (not being dairy farms) and to 35 persons to carry on the trade of distributors.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Number of persons issued with Dealers' Licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk	9
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk	9

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of persons issued with Dealers' Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk	15
Number of persons issued with Dealers' Licences for the sale of Sterilised milk	18
Number of persons issued with Dealers' Licences to use designation, Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)	13
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Pasteurised milk	10
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Sterilised milk	8
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences to use designation Tuberculin Tested milk (Pasteurised)	6

Four Dairy Farmers retailed milk within the Borough in addition to the above.

Sampling.

Samples of milk are submitted by the County Council to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination as to bacterial content and the results thereon are set out opposite:—

Designation	No. of samples taken	Keeping Quality		Test for Tuberculosis	
		Satis.	Unsatis. Methylene Blue test	Neg.	Pos.
Tuberculin Tested	93	40	8	45	—
T.T.(Pasteurised)	28	26	2	—	—
Pasteurised ..	133	107	22	4	—
Accredited ..	4	1	—	3	—
Sterilised	2	2	—	—	—
Undesignated ..	45	17	5	22	1
	305	193	37	74	1

The number of samples of milk taken from Producer Retailers and Retailers who are on the Borough Register and distribute milk within the Borough are set out below :—

	Number
PRODUCER-RETAILERS :	
Milk from own cows	60
Milk from cows of other producers	16
Producers only	4
RETAILERS :	
Dairies in Borough receiving milk from cowkeepers outside the Borough	16
Dairies outside the Borough receiving milk from cowkeepers outside the Borough	99
Retailers receiving milk from a licensed Pasteurising Plant which is in the Borough	109
	304

The County Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the taking of samples under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and he has kindly furnished me with the following list :—

Milk, which includes all grades—229. Of this number, six were adulterated or not up to standard.

General Foods : 75—three proved to be adulterated or not up to standard. The foods submitted were as follows :—

Beer (mild), Beer (bitter), Pearl Barley, Rice, Rice Creamola, Puddena, Glycerine, Indian Brandee, Glycerine and Lemon, Syrup of Figs, Powdered

Nutmeg B.P., Saccharin Tablets, Sugar (all grades), Tea, Pure Ground Coffee, Cake and Pudding Mixture, Butter, Beef Suet, Gelatine, Mixed Spice, Minced Chicken, Pineapple Syrup, Ice Cream, Sherbert Shandies, Preserved Ginger, Soup (Mock Turtle), Soup (Pea), Soup (Tomato), Soup (Kidney), Soup (Ox Tail), Sunny Spread, Calves Feet Jelly, Pure Cream, Herring Fillets, Soft Herring Roes, Golden Crumbs, Gingerbread Mixture, Chocolate Sponge Mixture, Herbs (Mint), Herbs (Sage), Haricot Beans, Chocolate Desert Powder, Chocolate Blanc-mange, Plain Flour, Table Treacle, Whisky, Rum, Gin.

**SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

(see table 5, page 40).

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of Diphtheria reported among the population during the year.

Statistics for the Borough for Diphtheria Immunisation follow :—

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION, 1953.

School.	Primary	Re-inforcing
St. Austin's	5	9
St. Leonard's Avenue .	5	11
Forebridge	1	5
Corporation St. Infants	16	30
Littleworth	1	11
Tenter Banks	16	17
Holmcroft	13	22
Stone Road	3	2
St. Patrick's Junior ...	2	8
Rising Brook	2	5
Silkmore	11	17
Flash Ley	12	8
Outside Schools	1	1
Welfare Centre	63	5
Private Doctors	311	61
Total	462	212

Scarlet Fever.

This disease was present throughout the year—was mild in character, and no deaths were recorded. For various reasons, it was found expedient to send 18 cases to hospital. In thirteen instances there was more than one case in a family. Return cases numbered one.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Puerperal Pyrexia cases numbered four, all of which occurred in Institutions. There was one death.

Pneumonia.

Fewer cases were reported, and these mostly were notified in February.

Salmonella Infection.

An increase occurred this year. They were mostly isolated family cases, most frequently notified in the *Summer months*, and the causal organism was *Salmonella typhi murium*. It was necessary in one instance to stop the employment of a male carrier.

Dysentery.

No cases outside of an Institution were reported.

Measles.

The number of cases of this disease rose sharply in the early months of the year, the peak being reached in March, and was followed by a secondary and smaller rise at the end of May. There was one fatal case.

Whooping Cough.

Cases were moderate in number—the disease was present throughout but most prevalent during the latter half year. Vaccine against this disease is available to General Practitioners on request at the office.

Tuberculosis.

A concentrated mass radiography survey was held in Stafford from the 1st September to the 9th October.

There were 53 cases of Tuberculous disease notified—a very marked increase on last year and for many years previous. There is no evidence to suggest that any industry or local conditions were responsible as all ages and both sexes were implicated. The increase, in my opinion, is due to two factors which have operated to a certain extent together, i.e., the presence of the Mass Radiography Units with their attendant publicity, but more so to the re-organisation and increased efficiency of the local service with its greater use of by the doctors in the neighbourhood. The Mortality Rate of .17 per 1,000 population does not compare unfavourably with that of the smaller towns at .19 per 1,000, but it is a little higher than that of last year.

The Housing Committee have been most considerate as to the housing needs of these cases.

The County Council are responsible for the domiciliary visiting of cases in this District. A Tuberculosis Health Visitor has been appointed for this work.

The “Balance Sheet” for the Register may be given as follows :—

1953			
On Register at Jan. 1st	167	Deaths	7
Notifications	53	Recovered ..	3
Transfers in	7	Transfers out ..	9
		Left District, address unknown	7
		On Register at 31st December ..	201
	<hr/> 227 <hr/>		<hr/> 227 <hr/>

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Group	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—15	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
25—35	7	8	—	1	2	—	—	—
35—45	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1
Totals	29	17	1	6	5	—	1	1

Of the seven deaths, four occurred in Institutions

Admissions to, and discharges from, Institutions were notified as follows :—

			Admissions		Discharges
Groundslow Sanatorium	..	..	17	..	16
The Limes, Himley	..	..	2	..	-
Prestwood Sanatorium	..	..	3	..	2
Outwoods Sanatorium	..	..	1	..	1

Public Health Propaganda.

“Clean Catering” booklets and “Clean Food” leaflets are now in the hands of most Food Shops and Canteens.

During the year posters relating to Venereal Disease were sent to all Doctors and Factories in the town. Factories also received posters drawing attention to Food Poisoning. Talks have also been given by members of the Staff to voluntary bodies.

Road Accident Figures.

There has again been much activity by the Road Safety Committee drawing the public’s attention to the dangers existing on the roads. The following figures, extracted from their reports, disclose the number of casualties for the last five years.

		<i>Killed</i>	<i>Seriously injured</i>	<i>Slightly injured</i>
1949	..	8	21	140
1950	..	9	29	144
1951	..	4	29	133
1952	..	2	45	151
1953	..	5	48	125

Table 1.—Births and Stillbirths

Year	STAFFORD BOROUGH.				Birth Rate for Smaller Towns of England and Wales
	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	
1944 ..	720	20.7	19	26	17.6
1945 ..	635	18.8	18	27	19.2
1946 ..	685	19.4	26	36	21.3
1947 ..	703	19.7	19	26	22.2
1948 ..	686	18.2	23	32	19.2
1949 ..	755	19.5	17	22	18.0
1950 ..	638	15.9	17	25	16.8
1951 ..	701	17.4	19	20	16.7
1952 ..	674	16.54	9	13	15.5
1953 ..	672	16.5	17	24	15.7

Table 2.—Infant mortality for 1953 and previous nine years

Year	Live Births	Under one month		Under one year	
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1944 ..	720	15	21	20	27
1945 ..	635	19	29	30	47
1946 ..	685	16	23	27	39
1947 ..	703	14	19	24	34
1948 ..	686	11	16	19	27
1949 ..	755	11	14	16	21
1950 ..	638	6	9	13	20
1951 ..	701	16	22.8	24	34.2
1952 ..	674	12	17.8	16	23.7
1953 ..	672	9	13.4	17	25.3

Table 3.—Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases.

	England and Wales	160 Smaller Towns	STAFFORD	
			1953	1952
BIRTHS.	Rat	es per 1,000 Home	Popula	tion :—
Live Births	15.5	15.7	16.5	16.54
Still Births.....	0.35	0.34	0.42	.22
	22.4(a)	21.4(a)	24.67	13.18
			(a)	(a)
DEATHS.				
All Causes	11.4	11.3	13.0	9.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.00	—	—
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	—	—
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.12
Influenza.....	0.16	0.17	—	—
Small-pox	0.00	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	—	—
Pneumonia.....	0.55	0.52	0.37	0.29
NOTIFICATIONS (corrected).				
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.02	—
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	—
Scarlet Fever.....	1.39	1.44	2.87	6.55
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.38	8.21	6.45
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	—	—
Erysipelas	0.14	0.13	0.02	0.25
Small-pox	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles	12.36	12.32	22.24	3.07
Pneumonia	0.84	0.76	0.47	0.74
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) Paralytic....	0.07	0.06	—	—
Non-Paralytic	0.04	0.04	—	—
Food Poisoning.....	0.24	0.24	0.42	0.98
Puerperal Pyrexia	18.23(a)	12.46(a)	5.81	7.31
				(a)
DEATHS.	Rates per 1,000	Live Births.		
All causes under one year of age	26.8(b)	24.3	25.30	23.74
Enteritis and Diarrhœa under two years of age	1.1	0.9	—	—
				(b)

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

The rates apply only to the civilian population.

The 160 Smaller Towns have resident populations of 25,000 to 50,000 ; Stafford is one of these.

Table 4.—Registrar-General's Short List of Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Total	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	6	5	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
Measles	1	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	12	7	5
Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus	13	12	1
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	11	—	11
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	3	—	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	46	24	22
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	—
Diabetes	3	—	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	78	32	46
Coronary disease, angina	54	41	13
Hypertension with Heart Disease	18	11	7
Other Heart Disease	133	59	74
Other circulatory Diseases	24	10	14
Influenza	6	4	2
Pneumonia	15	3	12
Bronchitis	36	21	15
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	—	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	7	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	4	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	3	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	34	12	22
Motor Vehicle accidents	5	3	2
All other accidents	5	1	4
Suicide	3	1	2
TOTAL DEATHS	531	259	272

Ward distribution of deaths :—

North, 192 ; South, 78 ; East, 83 ; West, 146 ; Bas-
wich, 32.

Table 5.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1953.

Notifiable Diseases	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards				Institutions and Hospitals	Under 1 year	1--2	2--3	3--4	4--5	5--10	10--15	15--20	20--25	25--45	45--65	65 & over	Removed to Isolation Hospital
		North	South	East	West	Baswick													
Scarlet Fever Cases .. Deaths	117 —	4 —	39 —	12 —	27 —	35 —	—	14 —	14 —	14 —	29 —	39 —	6 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	18 —
Pneumonia Cases .. Deaths	19 —	6 —	2 —	4 —	3 —	4 —	4 —	—	—	—	2 —	1 —	—	—	—	3 —	7 —	4 —	1 —
Puerperal Pyrexia Cases .. Deaths	4 1	2 —	—	—	2 1	—	4 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 —	2 1	—	—	—
Measles Cases .. Deaths	908 1	70 —	176 —	161 —	233 1	268 —	— 1	128 1	147 —	142 —	237 —	224 —	5 —	2 —	2 —	2 —	—	—	3 —
Whooping Cough Cases .. Deaths	335 —	36 —	72 —	50 —	59 —	118 —	—	63 —	57 —	59 —	62 —	57 —	10 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	—
Dysentery Cases .. Deaths	6 —	1 —	—	—	5 —	—	6 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6 —	—
Food Poisoning Cases .. Deaths	17 —	3 —	4 —	4 —	—	6 —	—	4 —	3 —	1 —	1 —	1 —	—	1 —	—	3 —	—	—	3 —
Paratyphoid Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —
Erysipelas Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

INDEX

Ambulance ..	12	Milk Supply ..	..29-31
Area of Borough ..	6	Mortuary ..	.. 13
Births ..	8, 9, 37, 38	Moveable Dwellings ..	25
Closet Accommodation ..	19	Offensive Trades ..	.. 22
Deaths ..	8, 9, 10, 11, 39	Pest Control ..	..22-23
Diphtheria ..	.. 32	Pet Animals ..	.. 23
Diphtheria Immunisation	32	Pig-keeping ..	.. 22
Drainage and Sewerage ..	18	Pneumonia ..	.. 33
Dustbins ..	.. 22	Population ..	.. 6
Dysentery ..	.. 33	Propaganda ..	.. 36
Factory Act ..	.. 21	Puerperal Pyrexia ..	.. 33
Food and Drugs Act ..	27	Rateable Value ..	.. 6
Food Poisoning ..	.. 33	Refuse Disposal ..	.. 22
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA ..	..12-15	Road Accidents ..	.. 36
Hospitals, Clinics, etc ..	..14-15	SANITARY CIRCUM- STANCES OF THE AREA ..	.. ..15-23
HOUSING ..	..23-26	Sanitary Inspection ..	..19-21
Ice Cream ..	.. 27	Scarlet Fever ..	.. 33
INFECTIOUS and OTHER DISEASES ..	..32-36	Sewage Disposal Works ..	18
INSPECTION and SUPER- VISION OF FOOD ..	..27-32	Smoke Abatement ..	..18-19
INTRODUCTION ..	3-5	Social Conditions ..	.. 6-7
Isolation Hospitals ..	.. 14	Social Services ..	..13-14
Laboratory ..	.. 15	Staff ..	.. .. 2
MATERNITY and CHILD WELFARE ..	.. 14	STATISTICS 6, 8, 9, 10, 11	
Maternity Homes ..	.. 14	Stillbirths ..	.. 8, 37, 38
Meat and other Foods ..	..27-29	Swimming Baths ..	.. 15
Measles ..	.. 33	Tuberculosis ..	..34-36
		Verminous Houses ..	.. 22
		Water Supply ..	..15-17
		Whooping Cough ..	.. 33

